

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated January 26, 2005. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-15, 17, 18, 20-27, 29, 30, and 32-43 are pending in this application. Claims 2, 5, 16, 19, 28, and 31 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Claims 1, 3, 11, 15, 17, 25, 27, 29, and 40-43, which are the independent claims, have been amended as discussed below. Favorable reconsideration is requested.


Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that Claims 3, 5, 11, 17, 19, 25, 29, and 31 would be allowable if rewritten in proper independent form. Claims 3, 11, 17, 25, and 29 have been so rewritten, and the allowable subject matter of Claims 5, 19, and 31 has been incorporated into Claims 1, 15, and 27, respectively. Accordingly, Claims 1, 3, 11, 15, 17, 25, 27, and 29 are believed to be allowable.

In addition, Claims 41 and 43 have been amended to recite a method and recording medium, respectively, that correspond to the subject matter of allowed Claim 27. Likewise, Claims 40 and 42 have been amended to recite a method and recording medium, respectively, that correspond to the subject matter of allowed Claim 15. Accordingly, Claims 40-43 are also believed to be allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all of the pending claims are believed to be allowable, and Applicants therefore respectfully request favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Leonard P. Diana", is written over a horizontal line.

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